

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: MAPLETON COMMUNICATIONS UTILITY AND MAPLETON COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT AGENCY	DOCKET NO. SPU-03-3 (TCU-01-2)
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ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATE

(Issued March 7, 2003)

On December 4, 2002, the Utilities Board (Board) issued a certificate of public convenience and necessity, Certificate No. 0258, pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.29(9) to Mapleton Communications Utility (MCU). The certificate authorizes MCU to furnish local telephone service in the exchanges as shown by its tariffs as currently and subsequently approved. MCU is not providing service to any Iowa customers at this time.

On February 6, 2003, MCU and Mapleton Communications Management Agency (MCMA) jointly filed a request to transfer Certificate No. 0258 to MCMA. In support of their request, the parties state that MCMA is a joint agency created by MCU and Long Lines Ltd. (LLL), an Iowa corporation, pursuant to Iowa Code § 28E. LLL currently possesses Certificate No. 0248 under the trade name Long Lines Metro, Inc., and Certificate No. 0180 under the trade name CommChoice of Iowa,

LLC. The parties state that MCMA was created for the purpose of joint management and operation of the communications utility in the Mapleton, Iowa, exchange.

The applicants also state that upon the transfer of MCU's certificate to MCMA, MCMA will undertake all obligations previously imposed upon MCU by virtue of its certificate and that MCU and LLL will continue to exercise managerial control over MCMA. In addition, the applicants state that a transfer of the certificate will have no adverse affect on the public interest.

Iowa Code § 476.29(3) authorizes the transfer of a certificate upon approval by the Board. Since MCMA will be the provider of local exchange service in Iowa upon approval of the transfer, the Board will consider the transfer under the same conditions as it would an application for a certificate. Since both MCU and LLL have been issued certificates pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.29, each has previously demonstrated "the technical, financial, and managerial ability to provide the service it proposes to render and the board finds the service is consistent with public interest." Iowa Code § 476.29(2).

The Board has reviewed the information submitted by MCU and MCMA and finds the necessary technical, financial, and managerial ability to provide local exchange service has been demonstrated. The Board finds it is in the public interest to approve the transfer of the certificate of public convenience and necessity of MCU to MCMA. An amended Certificate No. 0258 will be issued concurrently with this order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The joint request filed by Mapleton Communications Utility and Mapleton Communications Management Agency on February 6, 2003, to transfer a certificate of public convenience and necessity is approved as described in this order.
2. Certificate No. 0258, initially issued to Mapleton Communications Utility on December 4, 2002, is amended and transferred to Mapleton Communications Management Agency concurrently with this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 7th day of March, 2003.